

BOROUGH OF



GRAVESEND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1970

G. P. MERSON

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1970/71

THE MAYOR (Alderman K.C.W. Pearson, D.S.M.)

Alderman Miss A.E.H. Johnson, B.E.M.

Alderman J. E. Bacon

Alderman R Farthing

Alderman L. H. Hardy (*Chairman*)

Councillor C J. Hodgson

Councillor J G. Booker, J.P.

Councillor V. P. Gardner

Councillor Mrs. E. R. Gardner

Councillor N Williams (*Vice Chairman*)

Councillor R. J. Smith

Councillor E. S. Percy

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

GEORGE POLSON MERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

K. McINTYRE, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

K. V. SPROAT M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors

B. L. M. CLARK, M.A.P.H.I.

J. WANN M.A.P.H.I.

G. P. MUTIMER M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H.

Clerical and Ancillary Staff

C. A. PORT

MRS. J. WELLS

MRS. L. WINN

(Resigned 31st July 1970)

MISS W. THOROGOOD

(Commenced 17th August, 1970)

I McINTYRE

(Commenced 27th January 1970)

H. GREENCLADE

G. ROWE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CIVIC CENTRE

GRAVESEND.

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I present my Report on the Public Health, Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics for the Borough of Gravesend for the year 1970.

In the schools in the area tetanus and poliomyelitis immunisation was offered to school leavers. Many pupils availed themselves of these facilities. Rubella vaccination was offered to girls in the 13 year old age group. These immunisations are in addition to immunisation with B.C.G. which has been carried out for many years now. These measures have contributed to the low level of infectious disease in the Borough now.

The causes of death for Gravesend as forwarded by the Registrar General closely follow the national pattern and there are no diseases in Gravesend which show a consistently higher incidence than those figures for the whole country.

The population of Gravesend was estimated in 1970 to be 54 590 - a slight decrease. The figures from the recent census are not yet available. There were 971 births - again a slight decrease, and 557 deaths - a slight increase.

The areas of Nine Elms Grove and Clifton Grove which were represented as Clearance Areas in 1968 are now being re-developed. The accommodation provided will provide much needed housing for people in the centre of the town.

Influenza immunisation has been offered to the staff of the Borough Council since 1966. There has been little falling off in the demand for this and in 1970 over 100 employees availed themselves of this facility.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health and Licensing Committee for all their help and support during the year. I also wish to thank all members of the Health Department for their work during the year and the co-operation from the other departments of the Borough Council.

I am, Mr Mayor Mr Chairman Ladies and Gentlemen

Your obedient Servant,

G. P. MERSON

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area of the Borough (acres)	4,619
Registrar General's estimate of the Population	54,490
Number of Separate inhabited houses (at 31.3.71)	17,042
Rateable Value (at 31.3.71)	£2,112,856
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£8,399
Rates (to 31st March 1971) - 75p in the £	

Number of Dwelling Houses built during 1970 -

Borough Council	Number of Units completed	239
Private Enterprise	Number of Units completed	23
		<u>262</u>

REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	488	429	917
Illegitimate	24	30	54
Total live births	<u>512</u>	<u>459</u>	<u>971</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 17.8

STILL BIRTHS

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	6	6	12
Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>

Still Birth Rate - i.e. Rate per
1 000 total (live and still) births - 12.00

Still Birth Rate per 1 000 population - 0.22

REGISTERED DEATHS - All causes at all ages - 557

Males	Females	Total
291	266	557

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population - 10.2
(The previous year it was 9.3)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES - Nil

NATURAL INCREASE IN POPULATION (Excess of Births over Deaths) . . 414

INFANT DEATHS - under 1 year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Infants . .	11	5	16
Illegitimate Infants . .	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>16</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. All infants per 1,000 live births	16
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	17

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) . . 11

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) . . 9

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) . . 21

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

Rates	Gravesend	England and Wales
Birth Rate	16.37	16.00
Death Rate	11.80	11.70
Infant Mortality Rate	18.00	18.00
Still Birth Rate	0.22	0.21

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Number of births	1 069	1,177	1,178	1,153	1,235	1,205	1,063	1,128	1,053	971
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	20.86	22.66	22.12	21.15	22.62	22.21	19.35	20.44	19.00	17.80
Number of deaths	502	527	552	531	551	551	522	553	516	557
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	9.80	10.14	10.36	9.90	10.10	10.10	9.50	10.02	9.30	10.20

CAUSES OF DEATH IN GRAVESEND FOR 1970
AS PROVIDED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-	1
2. Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	1	-	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	1	3
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	10	2	12
5. Malignant Neoplasm Intestine	7	15	22
6. Malignant Neoplasm Larynx	1	-	1
7. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	23	4	27
8. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	16	16
9. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3
10. Malignant Neoplasm Prostate	3	-	3
11. Leukaemia	2	4	6
12. Other Malignant Neoplasms	12	12	24
13. Benign and Unsuspected Neoplasms	-	1	1
14. Diabetes Mellitus	3	-	3
15. Avitaminoses etc	-	1	1
16. Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	2	3
17. Anaemias	-	2	2
18. Mental Disorders	1	2	3
19. Multiple Sclerosis	1	2	3
20. Other Diseases of Nervous System	6	2	8
21. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	5	5
22. Hypertensive Disease	1	5	6
23. Ischaemic Heart Disease	87	57	144
24. Other Forms of Heart Disease	10	18	28
25. Cerebrovascular Disease	32	39	71
26. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	10	16
27. Influenza	2	6	8
28. Pneumonia	14	13	27
29. Bronchitis and Emphysema	25	6	31
30. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	3	4

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
31	Peptic Ulcer	2	2	4
32	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	2	4
33	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
34	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	4	6
35	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2	2
36	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
37	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	7	8
38	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
39	Diseases of Musculo Skeletal System	1	4	5
40	Congenital Anomalies	5	3	8
41	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	6	-	6
42	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
43	Symptoms of Ill Defined Conditions	1	4	5
44	Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	2	8
45	All Other Accidents	7	2	9
46	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	1	3
47	All Other External Causes	1	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1970

Disease	Under one year	One and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 years and over	Total	Number removed to Hospital
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	4	30	9	10	7	1	-	61	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	7	64	71	93	5	1	-	-	-	241	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	4	11	7	2	-	-	-	24	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	7	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	6	2	13	10
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	1	1	9	1
	9	65	81	138	24	17	13	8	4	359	17

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

The number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend during the year was 1,149. After correction for those whose usual residence is elsewhere (i.e. 225 transferred "out" and 59 transferred "in") the number properly belonging to the Borough was 983 (971 live births and 12 still births) compared with 1,068 in the previous year.

PARTICULARS OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN GRAVESEND:

Total number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend		1,149
Number of live births actually belonging to Gravesend	912	
Number of still births actually belonging to Gravesend	12	
Number of live births (non-residents)	220	
Number of still births (non-residents)	<u>5</u>	1,149

NUMBER OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITAL:

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
Number of infants born in Hospital (residents)	645	11
Number of infants born in Hospital (non-residents)	220	5

ATTENDANCE AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

The attendances at the four Welfare Centres during the year were:-

(a)	Individual children under 1 year of age	..	..	815
(b)	Individual children between 1 and 5 years	..	..	1,930
(c)	Total number of attendances at child health clinics	..	..	12,656

For the year 1969 the figures were:

(a)	887
(b)	1,949
(c)	13,475

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

No Ante-Natal Clinics were held in the Local Authority Clinics.

Ante-Natal Clinics are now held in the General Practitioners' Surgeries.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

PUBLIC DRINKING SUPPLIES

The Medway Water Board supply water to the Borough.

The water has been satisfactory -

(a) in quantity

(b) in quality

The water is hard and there is no evidence of plumbo-solvent action

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Samples were taken at regular intervals and were found to be satisfactory

Number of samples taken - 59

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

One sample of treated water was taken and reported to be satisfactory

Note: Tabulated summaries of all water samples taken and results of examination are shown on pages 36 37 38 39 40 and 41.

CORPORATION BATHING POOL

During the 1970 season the following persons used the Pools.

Bathers and Spectators	..	..	84,486
Schoolchildren	..	..	19,927
Season Ticket and Pass Holders	..		14,318
Club Members	..	..	4,593
Old Age Pensioners	..	..	339
			<hr/>
			123,663
			<hr/>

HYGIENIC ARRANGEMENTS AT BATHING POOL

The Medical Officer of Health has continued to keep the hygienic arrangements at the Pool under supervision "Breakpoint Chlorination", which was put into operation in 1948 appears to be working efficiently.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

Twelve samples were taken from the Corporation pool and 38 from school pools. See tabulated summary on pages 39, 40 and 41.

SLIPPER BATHS

The Slipper Baths at the Corporation Bathing Pool were opened in January 1949.

There are separate sections for males and females - 7 baths being allocated to males and 3 to females.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND "OTHER DISEASES"

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were immunised during the year ended 31st December, 1970

Year of Birth	Primary		Reinforcing	
	Triple	Diph./Tet.	Triple	Diph./Tet.
1970	40	-	-	-
1969	451	18	9	-
1968	140	9	238	26
1967	9	3	111	26
1966	1	1	13	64
1963 - 1964	2	3	17	90
1965	2	3	86	494
1954 - 1962	1	4	17	15
	646	41	491	715

SMALLPOX PREVENTION

Vaccination is carried out at the Kent County Council Clinics and by General Practitioners.

The following is a return of the number of persons who were vaccinated against Smallpox at the Kent County Council Clinics during the year ended 31st December, 1970

Year of Birth	Primary	Reinforcing
1968 - 1969	398	-
1954 - 1962	-	37

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table gives the number of persons resident in the Borough who received immunisation against Poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1970.

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Reinforcing</i>
1970	28	-
1969	669	-
1968	256	-
1967	50	-
1966	17	82
1963 - 1964	-	137
1965	-	665
1954 - 1962	-	28
	1,020	912

MEASLES VACCINATION

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were vaccinated during the year ended 31st December, 1970.

<i>Year of Birth</i>	
1970	-
1969	166
1968	204
1967	62
1966	63
1963 - 1964	13
1965	37
1954 - 1962	27
	572

TETANUS VACCINATION

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were vaccinated during the year ended 31st December, 1970

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Reinforcing</i>
1970	2	-
1969	-	-
1968	3	1
1967	-	1
1966	3	4
1963 - 1964	5	1
1965	-	5
1954 - 1962	43	67
	56	79

NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

In 1970 22 fresh cases were notified. The following table gives comparative particulars over the last ten years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Population of Registrar General</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961	51,240	20	3	23
1962	51,950	26	6	32
1963	53,250	13	4	17
1964	53,590	14	6	20
1965	54,550	14	6	20
1966	54,250	11	6	17
1967	54,930	24	4	28
1968	55,160	11	9	20
1969	55,310	11	3	14
1970	54,490	13	9	22

The sources from which the notifications of Tuberculosis were received:-

Chest Physicians	11
Private Medical Practitioners	-
Hospitals and Institutions .	11

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the 22 new cases

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	1	-	-	1
15 - 19	1	-	1	-
20 - 24	-	-	2	-
25 - 34	1	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	1	1	2
45 - 54	1	3	-	-
55 - 64	1	1	1	-
65 & over	-	2	1	-
	6	7	6	3

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There were no deaths registered from Tuberculosis

The following table compares the figures for 1970 with those of previous years.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL Rate per 1,000 Pop.
	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
1961	10	19	-	-	19
1962	8	.15	-	-	.15
1963	3	.05	-	-	.05
1964	5	.09	-	-	.09
1965	1	.01	1	.01	.02
1966	3	.05	-	-	.05
1967	2	.03	-	-	.03
1968	1	.01	3	.05	.06
1969	-	-	-	-	-
1970	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

The names of 16 persons were removed from the register for the following reasons:

Deaths	2
Left the District	3
Recovered	10
Diagnosis not Confirmed	1
Refused Public Medical Treatment	-
Lost sight of	-
Emigrated	-
De-notified	-
	<u>16</u>

One hundred and sixty-seven persons remained on the register at 31st December 1970 They consist of the following:

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary	72	61	133
Non-Pulmonary	15	19	34
	<u>87</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>167</u>

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Regular visits of the Mass X ray unit commenced on 1st October, 1970

The unit is at the Swimming Pool, Ordnance Road every Monday (except Bank Holidays) between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

INNOCULATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

A substantial number of children have been vaccinated with B.C.G.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Dr. C. D. Routh, the Medical Officer in charge of the Gravesend Clinic, has kindly supplied the following statistics:

New Patients - Gravesend:

Syphilis	..	.	..	4
Gonorrhoea	..	..	..	51
Other conditions	..	..	..	76
				<hr/>
				131
				<hr/>

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC - (South-Eastern Metropolitan Hospital Board)

Dr. C. D. Routh is in attendance at the Gravesend Clinic, 22 Cobham Street (telephone Gravesend 3061), at the following times:-

TUESDAY

Male	..	11.00 a.m.	to	1.00 p.m.
Female	..	1.00 p.m.	to	2.00 p.m.

SATURDAY

Male and Female	..	9.00 a.m.	to	10.30 a.m.
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MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Ninety medical examinations were carried out on the staff of the Borough Council during 1970.

CORONER'S INQUESTS

H.M. Coroner has kindly supplied the following information for the year 1970

Total number of inquests	..	19
Number of inquests without post-mortems	..	-
Number of post-mortems without inquests	..	96

Verdicts:-

Accidental deaths	..	6
Suicides	..	4
Found drowned	..	1
Other verdicts	..	6

Mr. K. McIntyre Chief Public Health Inspector has supplied the statistics relating to Public Health Inspection, Housing, Food, Factory Inspection and Atmospheric Pollution.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Accumulations of Refuse	246
Agricultural Premises	8
Cesspools	34
Clean Air and Atmospheric Pollution	2,947
Drainage	515
Factories	179
Food Premises	981
Food Inspection and Complaints	224
Housing	3,170
Infectious Diseases	37
Miscellaneous	3,236
Nuisances other than Dwelling Houses	85
Offensive Trades	3
Offices Shops and Railway Premises	853
Pests	53
Pet Shops	22
Piggeries and Stables	5
Public Conveniences and Urinals	11
Rodent Control	375
Shops Hours of Closing and Young Persons	15
Sampling	294
Verminous Premises	76
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	13,369

NOTICES SERVED

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
In respect of dwelling houses	149	16
In respect of other premises	209	2

In two cases proceedings were instituted and Nuisance Orders made. In one of the cases there was non compliance with the Nuisance Order and a fine of £15 with £5. 5s. 0d costs was imposed.

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	46
Animals causing a nuisance	..	..	..	..	6
Chimney stacks - repaired	..	..	..	..	24
Dampness - external walls repointed, rendered or renewed	..				95
- damp-proof courses provided	..		..	..	33
- sub-floor ventilation provided	..		..	..	5
Door and door sills repaired or renewed	..		..	..	32
Drainage - relaid	..	..	..	..	19
- unstopped	..	..	..	..	55
- I.C. chambers or covers provided or repaired	..			..	16
- soil and ventilating pipes provided or repaired	..			..	8
- do. - removed	..		..	..	4
- gullies, etc. provided or repaired	..		..	..	19
- do. - sealed off	..		..	..	6
- sewers unstopped	..		..	..	22
Electric circuits repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Floors relaid or repaired	..	..	..	..	70
Guttering or rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	..		..	..	53
Lavatory basins renewed or repaired	..		..	..	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	..		..	..	6
Parapets repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Paving relaid or repaired	..	..	..	..	26
Rodent-proofing	..	..	..	..	13
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	70
Rooms, passages and staircases - walls repaired	..		..	..	137
- ceilings repaired	..		..	..	58
- staircases repaired	..		..	..	9
Sinks - provided	..	..	..	..	5
- waste pipes renewed or repaired	..		..	..	11
Stone steps and thresholds renewed or repaired	..		..	..	5
Stoves and fireplaces renewed or repaired	..		..	..	3
Verminous premises disinfested	..	..	..	..	43
Water supply - water pipes, etc. repaired	..		..	..	10
- internal supply provided	..		..	..	1
Water closets - rebuilt	..		..	..	1
- repaired and/or cleansed	..		..	..	15
- new pans	..	..	..	..	8
- pans cleansed or unstopped	..		..	..	8

Water closets - cisterns provided or repaired	13
- seats renewed or repaired	4
Windows renewed or repaired	111
- sashcords and weights provided or repaired	45
- sills renewed or repaired	21

CLEAR AIR ACTS 1956 AND 1968 - SMOKE CONTROL

A detailed survey of dwelling houses in the proposed second Smoke Control Area was completed during the year.

No Order was submitted owing to the likely difficulties in the supply position of solid smokeless fuel.

Towards the end of the year owing to the acute shortage of solid smokeless fuel it was found necessary to make application for the suspension of the No. 1 Smoke Control Area.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Eight premises are licensed within the district and 22 visits of inspection were made

RODENT CONTROL

The following report summarises the work carried out by the Rodent Officer during the year 1970.

Number of properties inspected following notification	..	..	..	601
Number of properties found to be infested by: (a) Rats	..	..	..	143
(b) Mice	..	..	..	251

TREATMENT AGAINST RATS IN SEWERS

Poison Treatment:

Number of manholes baited	..	..	..	102
Number of manholes showing bait taken			..	21

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT 1950

Owing to the change in the administration of the above Act, inspection and enforcement became the responsibility of the Public Health Department from 1st April, 1970.

HOUSING

HOUSING ACT 1957, PART III

The following Order was made:-

Queen Street Area Compulsory Purchase Order	..	8 houses
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Representations in respect of three individual properties were submitted and Closing Orders in respect of the following were made:-

19 Milton Place	(Part)
21 Berkley Road	(Whole)

RE-HOUSING

Families were re-housed during the year from the Clifton Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1968 and Nine Elms Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1968, Terrace Street Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1969, Brunswich Road Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1969 and Queen Street Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1970, also from properties affected by Closing Orders.

Number of Persons Displaced	..	428
Number of Families Displaced	..	150

Houses Demolished:-

In or adjoining Clearance Areas:-

(a)	Unfit for Human Habitation	..	54
(b)	On land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act 1957	..	17

Houses in which Defects were Remedied:-

After informal action	..	154
After formal action under Public Health Acts		6

RENT ACT 1957 - FIRST SCHEDULE

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	..	..	1
Applications for Cancellation of Certificates	..	..	Nil

HOUSING ACT 1969

Qualification Certificates:

Section 44(i) Dwelling Houses already improved:-

Applications received	..	..	..	..	60
Applications refused	..	..	..	..	10
Applications withdrawn	..	..	..	..	7
Qualification Certificates issued	..	..			14

Section 44(ii) Dwelling Houses lacking facilities:-

Applications received	..	.	..	..	37
Applications withdrawn	.	..	..	..	5
Provisional Qualification Certificates issued	..				26
Qualification Certificates issued				..	8

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Comments were made on 100 applications during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Council has the duty to enforce certain provisions of Parts I, IV and VIII of the Factories Act 1961.

Administrative arrangements include the following:-

Part I - Health (General Provisions)

- (1) Registration of all factories.
- (2) Inspection of sanitary conveniences in all factories.
- (3) Inspection with regard to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in all factories in which mechanical power is not used.

Part IV - Basement Bakehouses

- (1) The quinquennial examination of basement bake houses and the renewal or cancellation of Certificates of Suitability.

Part VIII - Home Work

- (1) Examination of lists, supplied to the Council by employers of outworkers in certain specified trades.
- (2) Notification of name and place of employment of any home worker employed outside the Borough to the Council in whose district his employment is situated.
- (3) Inspection of premises in which the outworker pursues his occupation.

The provisions of the Act, so far as they affect local authorities, have been enforced.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS OF THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961
PART I

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Owners Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by local authorities	3	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities	140	94	8	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises)	9	63	3	-
	152	159	11	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	6	5	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	5	7	-	-	-
	11	12	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK - SECTIONS 133 AND 134

Nature of Work	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list re- quired by Sec. 133(1) (c)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prose- cutions
Wearing apparel (making etc.)	20					
Furniture Up holstery and Loose Cover Makers	1					
	21					

BASEMENT BAKEHOUSES

PART IV OF THE ACT

Certificates of suitability are in operation in respect of two
basement bakehouses

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

At 31st December, 1970 694 premises had been registered in the following categories:-

Offices	172
Retail shops	425
Wholesale shops and warehouses	20
Catering establishments	75
Fuel storage depots	2

The number of persons employed in the 694 premises is:-

Males	1,886
Females	3,078
	<u>4,964</u>

Analysis of persons employed in classes of workplace:-

Offices	1,701
Retail shops	2,557
Wholesale shops and warehouses	113
Catering establishments open to the public	557
Canteens	29
Fuel storage depots	7
	<u>4,964</u>

The following figures show the work carried out during 1970:-

Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection	.. ..	175
Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises	..	852
Number of notices or requests made regarding infringements	.. ..	96
Number of notices or requests complied with	..	48

The 48 notices and requests complied with during 1970 comprised 88 items, classified as follows:-

Section 6	To provide thermometers	.. ..	15
" 7	To provide or improve ventilation	..	4
" 8	To provide or improve lighting	..	2
" 9	To provide or improve sanitary conveniences	..	11
" 10	To provide or improve washing facilities	..	14
" 16	To provide handrails, etc. to keep stairs, passageways and floors clear and maintained	.. ..	8
" 17	To fence exposed parts of machinery	..	2
" 24	To provide first-aid equipment	..	11
" 50	To provide information for employees	..	21

ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents reported during the year under Section 48 was 12

FOOD

There are 523 food premises in the district:-

Bakehouses	8
Bread and Cake shops	21
Butchers shops	38
Catering premises and Canteens	83
Chemists, Drugstores, Health Foods	18
Confectionery shops	68
Dairies	1
Fish shops	22
Fruit and Greengrocery shops	34
Licensed Premises Motels Hotels, Clubs	115
Provision shops	83
Supermarkets and Multiple Stores	23
Warehouses/Wholesale	9
	<hr/>
	523
	<hr/>

Attention is devoted to enforcing the relevant Food Hygiene Regulations and for this purpose 969 visits were made to food premises, stalls and vehicles, and 55 notices served

MILK

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959:

Registered Dairies	..	..	1
Registered Milk Distributors	..	..	87

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963:

Licences issued to operate until 31st December, 1971 are as follows:-

Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences	..	..	1
Dealers (Prepacked Milk) Licences	..	..	169

There is one pasteurising plant in the area dealing with approximately 17,500 gallons per day.

Biochemical Examinations:

Results of samples taken were as follows:-

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Results</i>	
Pasteurised	Methylene Blue Test	Satisfactory	37
		Unsatisfactory	2
	Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	39
		Unsatisfactory	-

Chemical Analysis:

Fifteen samples of milk were submitted for analysis, all of which were satisfactory.

These fifteen samples are also included under Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sampling

ICE CREAM

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955:-

For the sale of ice cream	.. ..	142
For the manufacture and sale of ice cream		9

Bacteriological Examination:

Samples were classified as follows:-

Grade 1	.. ..	54
Grade 2	.. ..	2
Grade 4	.. ..	3

Chemical Analysis:

Six samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis and found to be satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

The Public Health Inspectors spend a great deal of their time on food inspection, and a large quantity of food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year.

The surrendered food is disposed of at the joint refuse tip at Northfleet, under supervision.

Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sampling

Samples taken during the year and submitted for analysis were as follows:-

<i>Article</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	
	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Angelica	1	
Bread, Cakes, Biscuits, Pastries	11	
Cake Decorations	1	
Cheese	3	1
Cheese Gateau	1	
Coffee	1	
Diabetic Products	1	
Drinks, Soft Liquid	1	
Drugs, Medical Preparations	18	
Fish Products	1	
Fruit, Dried	2	
Ice Cream	6	
Ice Lollies	1	
Marzipan	1	
Meat Products, Open	16	2
Meat Products, Canned	1	
Milk	15	
Milk Powder	1	
Nuts	1	
Pudding (Bread)	1	
Suet Dripping, Lard	2	1
Sugar Confectionery	4	
	90	4

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES ADULTERATED OR OTHERWISE UNSATISFACTORY

Steak and Kidney Pies - No Kidney Present. Warning letter sent to manufacturer/retailer.

Curd Cheese - Ambiguous Description. The attention of the manufacturer and the retailer was drawn to this matter.

Pork Sausages - Undeclared Preservative. The Public Analyst recommended that a further formal sample be taken.

Beef Dripping - Too Rancid. The attention of the manufacturer/retailer was drawn to the Public Analyst's comments.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

Forty-nine complaints were received relating to foreign bodies, mould, etc. in food. Proceedings were instituted in five cases. Three were dealt with during the current year as follows:-

Mould on Egg and Pork Pie	-	Fine £3	£2 costs
Mouldy Steak and Kidney Pie	-	Fine £3	£2 costs
Liver Pate unfit	-	Fine £20	£5 . 5s. costs

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Date taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml. Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	Plate count per ml
1. Leith Park Road Pumping Station (treated)	19. 1. 70	None		
	24. 2. 70	None		
	25. 3. 70	None		
	27. 4. 70	None		
	19. 5. 70	None		
	24. 6. 70	None		
	20. 7. 70	None		
	25. 8. 70	None		
	23. 9. 70	None		
	26. 10. 70	None		
	24. 11. 70	None		
	16. 12. 70	None		

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

		Number of Samples	Date taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
				Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
2.	Domestic Supplies (treated)	3	19. 1. 70	None		
		4	24. 2. 70	None		
		3	25. 3. 70	None		
		4	27. 4. 70	None		
		4	19. 5. 70	None		
		4	24. 6. 70	None		
		4	20. 7. 70	None		
		4	25. 8. 70	None		
		5	23. 9. 70	None		
		2	26. 10. 70	None		
		1	26. 10. 70	2+	2+	
		1	2. 11. 70	None		
		4	24. 11. 70	None		
		4	16. 12. 70	None		

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING WATER

Date taken:	June 1970
Appearance:	Clear, bright
Odour:	None
pH Value	7.3

	<i>Parts per million</i>
Free Ammonia	0.008
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004
Nitrite	Nil
Nitrate	18.5
Chloride	28.00
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	278.00
Total Hardness	312.00
Permanent Hardness	34.00
Sulphate	12.00
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F	0.05
Total Solids	490.00

Microscopic examination.	Revealed very little mineral or vegetable matter.
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OPINION: Chemically this water was satisfactory

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml. Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	Plate count per ml
(a) Corporation Pool	26.5.70	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		14
	17.6.70	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None
	6.7.70	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None
	18.8.70	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
(b) School Pools	27. 4. 70	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	26. 5. 70	Wrotham Road St. Joseph's Convent	None 1	1	2 1
	17. 6. 70	King's Farm St. Joseph's Convent Riverview Wrotham Road Gravesend School for Boys Westcourt Whitehill Road Cecil Road	None None None None None None 1 None		None None None None None None None None
	6. 7. 70	Westcourt King's Farm St. Joseph's Convent Gravesend School for Boys Wrotham Road Whitehill Road Riverview Cecil Road Raynehurst	2+ 1 None None None None None None	None 1	2 None None None 9 None 74 7 None

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
(b) School Pools (contd.)	20. 7. 70	Wrotham Road	None		None
		Westcourt	None		None
		King's Farm	None		None
		Riverview	None		None
		Cecil Road	2+	2+	None
	18. 8. 70	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
		Whitehill Road	None		None
		St. Joseph's Convent	2+	2+	None
	25. 8. 70	St. Joseph's Convent	None		None
	16. 9. 70	St. Joseph's Convent	None		None
		Wrotham Road	None		500
		Cecil Road	None		500
		Whitehill Road	None		None
		Gravesend School for Boys	None		500
	26. 10. 70	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	24. 11. 70	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
		National Sea Training	None		None
	16. 12. 70	National Sea Training	None		None

ANALYST'S MONTHLY REPORTS ON ANALYSIS OF DEPOSITS FROM STANDARD
DEPOSIT GAUGES, CALCULATED IN MILLIGRAMMES PER SQUARE METER PER DAY

SITE: Dashwood Lane Nurseries

	1 9 6 9			1 9 7 0								
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.
Rainfall (m.m/day)	0.12	2.56	1.47	1.96	1.07	1.47	1.59	0.45	0.37	1.43	1.75	1.80
pH Value	6.4	6.4	6.0	5.8	6.9	6.4	6.2	7.2	7.2	6.2	6.5	6.4
Undissolved Matter	49	242	112	138	193	179	270	155	343	141	167	234
Soluble in Carbon Disulphide	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ash	34	186	84	113	152	141	229	107	245	108	112	195
Calcium	1	2	1	1	4	2	2	3	8	1	2	2
Dissolved Matter	39	174	104	106	127	144	164	116	113	83	105	129
Calcium	10	33	24	19	29	33	36	14	20	14	15	19
Chloride	1	23	10	15	12	12	16	5	7	8	8	17
Sulphates	17	52	39	38	38	48	50	31	32	22	32	35
Total Solids	88	415	217	244	320	323	434	271	456	223	217	363
Estimated Dust from Cement Works	35	79	75	43	89	97	90	17	27	19	18	13

SITE: Swimming Pool

	1 9 6 9			1 9 7 0								
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.
Rainfall (m.m./day)	0.02	2.34	1.34	1.73	0.98	1.73	1.36	0.21	0.21	1.22	1.24	1.64
pH Value	6.4	6.4	5.9	5.0	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.8	6.2	6.4	6.4
Undissolved Matter	45	170	104	140	135	148	155	87	166	114	82	135
Soluble in Carbon Disulphide	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2
Ash	35	124	80	113	104	115	128	66	119	87	59	111
Calcium	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	2
Dissolved Matter	31	150	103	110	115	144	132	63	91	113	78	144
Calcium	8	27	21	18	24	30	26	11	19	16	11	22
Chloride	1	20	10	16	14	15	13	3	6	12	5	16
Sulphates	15	36	38	35	35	44	40	22	27	32	29	41
Total Solids	76	320	208	250	250	292	287	150	257	227	159	279
Estimated Dust from Cement Works	25	66	62	36	78	89	73	25	44	35	32	49

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION
SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY VOLUMETRIC METHOD

SITE: Civic Centre

				SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE	
				Microgrammes per cubic metre		Microgrammes per cubic metre	
				Average value	Highest value	Average value	Highest value
26. 8. 69	-	29. 9. 69		18	38	57	187
30. 9. 69	-	27. 10. 69		42	67	93	265
28. 10. 69	-	24. 11. 69		45	129	87	206
25. 11. 69	-	29. 12. 69		67	307	152	662

